

I fully support the NCI effort to drop the Element 1A, 5 WPM Morse Code requirement from the amateur radio service requirements. I know several Ham radio operators that learn morse code to upgrade their license and then never touch a key afterwards. I must confess that I am currently studying the code for a General class upgrade but do not have the desire to continue with CW as part of my hobby enjoyment.

There are many aspects of the hobby that have been made available in recent years by more modern technology that does not require code to use other than the higher license privileges. Continuing with the morse code requirement does not make sense to me. In many aspects I feel that morse code of being a primary communication method has gone the way of the horse and buggy for transportation. Modern computer equipment allows morse code to be generated and received without the operator having to know how to key code. Why have a requirement forcing people to learn something they are not going to use.

I fully support the CW bands of the various HF bands be continued for those folks that wish to participate in that part of the hobby. Those individuals that wish to learn morse code can use those bands and continue as they have for many years now.

Most of the comments that I have heard in favor of keeping the 5 WPM morse requirement comes from older ham radio operators that have this attitude of if I had to do it everyone has to do it. Many of these folks don't practice or use morse code in their communication aspects.

Obviously other countries, primarily in Europe, have recognized the need to become more modern by dropping the morse code requirements for HAM radio licensing. I strongly urge the FCC to follow the example of these other countries and drop the morse code requirements from all HAM licenses.

Sincerely,  
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